

Official Publication of the Paper Money Collectors of Michigan

The Rag Picker

VOLUME XXX, NUMBER 1

JAN., FEB., MAR., 1995



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF THE
PAPER MONEY COLLECTORS OF MICHIGAN

Volume XXX JAN-MAR 1995

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1994-5 Officers of the PMCM

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CLOSING DATES FOR COPY AND ADS -- The 15th of January, April, July and October. Address mail to the EDITOR.

1995 Membership dues, if not paid, are due now. Please remit promptly and direct all dues and business correspondence concerning PMCM to: Robert Thiel, PO Box 163, Victor NY 14565.

ADVERTISING	1 ISSUE	4 ISSUES
BACK COVER	\$30.00	\$27.00 Each
INSIDE COVERS	27.00	24.50 "
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1/2 PAGE	12.00	10.00 "
1/4 PAGE	6.50	5.00 "
1/8 PAGE	3.50	2.75 "

TREASURER'S REPORT BY ROBERT THIEL # 1686

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS

9-22-94 Balance 345.332 Shares @ 32.99 11,392.50
 12-9-94 Reinvest 17.388 Shares @ 29.99
 12-14-94 Balance 362.720 Shares @ 30.44 11,041.20

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

11-24-94	Balance		1,171.77
	Dues	310.00	
	Interest	4.72	
	MI State Numis		
	Soc. Part. Paymt	2,000.00	
			3,486.49
	Dr. Lee ANA, trav,		
	plaque,books,raff.		
	tickets,phone,post.	517.00	
	B. Thiel phone	8.00	
	Jan-Mar Rag Picker	500.00	
2-27-95	Balance Rochester Community Savings Bank		2,461.49

25 Members have not paid 1995 Dues

DECEASED: None reported this month

NEW MEMBERS

Name	Location	#	Sponsor
Arri Jacob	Los Alamitos CA	3084	P. Pollard
Thos.G.Barrett	Marblehead MA	3085	B. Thiel
Jef.A.Holbrook	Flint, MI	3086	B. Thiel
Rick Blanc	Denton, TX	3087	B. Thiel
Daryl Crotts	Wichita, KS	3088	B. Thiel
R Vandevender	Joliet, IL	3089	J Hodgson

EDITOR'S NOTES:

If this issue looks a little neater, it's because I learned how to use the indent key...still learning this computer stuff! The New Chicago Show: Member Larry Falater reports it was not overwhelming; but steady. He reports continued attention in the area of old stock certificates. The Big Central States Show will be held in Milwaukee, April 27-30 at the Mecca. This is always a great Show, especially in Milwaukee as there is great local club support. Members John and Nancy Wilson are working hard to make it a great one. I have always seen lots of nice paper money at Central States...a must for us. If you're an exhibitor, Central States is the place for you as the prizes are GOLD Coins! I will be giving a short 30 minute illustrated slide lecture on Saturday at the Show featuring the topical collecting idea of Birds on coins and currency. We will be getting out the June issue early, as we hope to bring a few "recruiting" Rag Picker copies to Memphis for that June 15-19 extravaganza. Hope to see you there...Memphis is also a great place to exhibit thanks in large part to member Martin Delger's devotion to duty...great award plaques for ALL exhibitors.

OUR COVER THIS MONTH: Though the camera magic of Feature Article author Doug Walcutt, and the courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution Numismatic Collection, we are proud to display a proof impression of a First Charter Period \$500 National Bank Note on the Merchant's NB of Boston.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The President is traveling more and more as retirement becomes him. This issue I am pinch hitting for him in bringing a market review to your doorstep. The Chicago Paper money show was a success and paper money continues strong. Some developments to watch...per a Bob Cochran article in "Paper Money"...nice unmolested XF and up notes are being processed to appear as GEMs...beware, check your notes out carefully, as the process is difficult to detect. Deal with reputable paper money dealers and BE CAREFUL. Especially with the more expensive large size type notes.

Large size type continues strong, although the demand for circulated large size type remains good, it is not as powerful as last year at this time. Note appearance remains key, as many folks are willing to pay more for a great "eye appeal" AU note than for a more ordinary looking uncirculated example.

Hope to see you all in Memphis, as we pursue our great hobby.

Regards (Bill Brandimore for) Dr. Wallace Lee,
President, PMCM

CLUB NOTES

The Currency Club of Chester County continues to provide information on their meetings....how about the other clubs out there. They report, as has "Paper Money" that Ruth Hill has ben lost to the hobby at the age of 96. A stalwart supporter of the hobby. Joyce Aspen supposes that Ruth is now examining notes at Heaven's Bourse!

Doug Walcutt gave a presentation to the Club on his study of National Bank Notes...see our Feature Article, part one. CCCC urges support for John Wilson and William Horton to the ANA Board of Govs.

The April 20 meeting will feature Bob Kvederas speaking on the National Banks of Philadelphia and May 18 will highlight "Ossie", back from florida to speak on unusual Obsoletes. If you're in the Chester County area, join this very active club.

50 YEARS AGO IN NUMISMATICS

As reported from the pages of the Numismatic Scrapbook. As you may have noticed, there is no 100 years ago this issue. That is because I don't have the 1895 copies of the Numismatist. So you'll have to share your's with me, or wait until 2000 when my Numismatist's start back up again.

The Beebe Stamp & Coin Company of Chicago, IL offered a complete type set of Confederate currency from 50 cents to \$500 for 6.00 in very fine; \$7.50 uncirculated...holders extra. Read and Weep if you don't buy now at these prices said Murray Heiserman of Baltimore, MD...1917 Standing Liberty quarters for \$1.75 uncirculated, a 1937 proof set for \$19.50.

The Detroit Free Press reports that the government will no longer burn old worn stocks, bonds and currency. Instead, they have purchased new machinery that will reduce it to pulp...5 high grade tons a day.

Barney Bluestone advertised in the February, 1945 issue of the Numismatic Scrapbook that he was announcing the complete success of the first part of the Grinnel collection auction. Catalogs for the second sale in March were available for \$1.

In Greenland and Newfoundland, a huge demand for dollar bills to be used by GI's as short Snorters has caused the price of these dollar bills to reach \$3-\$4. The government says they will print more after the war.

Arlie Slabaugh offers a \$1 bill from the Grinnel collection with mismatched serial #'s for \$100. It is a large size legal tender, Spellman/White...practically uncirculated.

FEATURE ARTICLE

(Editor's note: This is the first in a four part series. The photos are the product of Doug's camera and I think you'll find he writes a very readable message on a sometimes very technical area of paper money collecting.)

Varieties of National Bank Notes--Part One

by Doug Walcutt, ©1995

Introduction

In the "National Bank Note" issuing era, there are many significant design and plate variations that can be readily found and identified. The following chapters will discuss the different varieties found on national bank notes, other than bank titles, city, town or state on the face of these notes, and the state seals on the backs of Original Series, Series of 1875, or Series of 1882 Brown Back notes. On "First Charter" (Original Series and Series of 1875) issues, most of the variations are found in the \$5 denomination. Actually, there were slightly more \$5 notes printed in the Original Series and Series of 1875 issues (about 96.5 million notes) than all the other denomination, from \$1 to \$1000, combined.

The "American Bank Note Company" engraved and printed all the early \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 in all their various plate combination, while the "National Bank Note Company" produced the \$500 and \$1000 plates and notes. The \$1 and \$2 notes, which were always combined on the same plates were a joint effort of "The American Bank Note Company" which engraved the \$1 notes and the "National Bank Note Company" which engraved the \$2 notes.

Only the "Continental Bank Note Company", which engraved and printed all the early \$5 issues, used the dates of the National Currency Acts on the plates they produced. In the first year of production, they also used four different variations of the same vignettes on the faces of these \$5 notes and three different variations of the vignettes on the backs.

In a later chapter, I will describe the four varieties of \$5 face vignettes and discuss where they are normally encountered, according to charter numbers, Act dates and plate dates. First, there

are several points worth noting about the two earliest National Currency Acts, the plate dates that appear on all large size national bank notes, the different issues, the serial numbering, the addition of charter numbers to the notes and the conversion from the Original Series to the Series of 1875.

The Early National Currency Acts

President Abraham Lincoln signed the original National Currency Act on February 25, 1863. This legislation allowed national banks to be chartered for up to twenty years from the date of the Act or until February 25, 1883. Most banks organized and chartered under this Act selected the maximum corporate life allowed, however, a significant number of the earliest banks selected a nineteen year life, which was computed from the bank's organization date. The subsequent National Currency Act of June 3, 1864 required all national banks to have an initial twenty year life from their organization date.

According to the Comptroller of the Currency's 1901 report (p.xxiv), 488 banks were organized under the 1863 Act. Peter Huntoon's research suggests a possible total of 489 banks (Charters 1 to 473 and sixteen others, including charters 477, 479, 482, 485, 487, 488, 491, 492, 493, 494, 500, 502, 521, 548, and 555). This discrepancy in the total number of banks organized under the 1863 Act might be attributable to one of three possible causes. First, the Comptroller of the Currency may have misquoted or misprinted the total number. Second, one of the early banks, although assigned a charter number, may never have completed the chartering process. The Comptroller's December 1883 report (p. cxi), lists all national banks that had liquidated through November 1883, including "The Second National Bank of Ottumwa, IA", Charter 195, liquidated on May 2, 1864, and "The Second National Bank of Canton, Ohio", Charter 463, liquidated

October 3, 1864, with a notation that these banks "never completed organization". Third, "The First National Bank of Norwich, CT", originally Charter 65, liquidated, reorganized and rechartered as Charter 458, may only have been counted once.

By the close of business on June 2, 1864, (the day before the new Act), while there were 488 or 489 national banks organized, only a total of 456 of these banks had been chartered. It seems likely that the Comptroller of the Currency made an effort to have the plates of these 456 banks show a plate date of no later than June 2, 1864, and on the \$5 note plates an Act date of "Feb. 25, 1863".

The first bank organized under the Act of June 3, 1864 was Charter 475, "The Merchant's National Bank of Boston, MA", which organized on June 10, 1864. Meanwhile, "The First National Bank of Greenfield, MA", which was organized on June 3, 1864, received Charter 474, as apparently it's paperwork was on top of the Boston bank's and thus received the lower charter number. Both banks were chartered on July 2, 1864.

Plate Dates On National Bank Notes

All large sized national bank notes have a specific plate date. Prior to 1882 these dates were generally just random dates or batch dates. The earliest plate date appearing on any national bank note is November 2, 1863. This date appears on most notes of \$5 and above issued by the first 100+ chartered banks. One of the highest charter numbers observed with this date is Charter 113, "The First National Bank of Danville, IL".

Beginning in 1882 the plate date usually had some significance. Generally, the date was either the bank's charter date (until January 1898), the bank's organization date (for banks chartered after January 1898), the bank's extension date after the passage of the Act of July 12, 1882, or the bank's date of title change (until March 1919). These

dating conventions changed through the note issuing period and will be discussed again in later chapters.

Prior to March 2, 1913, a bank's extension date was designated as the day after the expiration date of it's charter. After March 2, 1913 the extension date was designated as the same day as the expiration date. This resulted in plate dates of twenty years and one day or forty years and one day after the date of organization for banks organized under the Act of June 3, 1864 that extended their charters before March 2, 1913.

The Large Size National Bank Note Issues

Large size national bank notes fall into three basic issue groups. The first issue group includes the Original Series and the Series of 1875. Notes of this group were printed and delivered to national banks from late 1863 to early 1902. While the two series are essentially the same issue, the Original Series notes were produced until mid-1875 under contract with the bank note companies in New York City and shipped to Washington D.C. where the Bureau of Engraving and Printing added the Treasury seals and Treasury serial numbers. Beginning in 1874 the Bureau also overprinted the bank charter numbers in red numerals. With the Series of 1875 the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began to produce the faces of all notes and ultimately assumed all national bank production functions in Washington, D.C.

The second issue group comprises the three Series of 1882 national bank note types. these are: Brown Seal, Brown Back type. issued from mid-1882 to mid-1908; the Blue Seal, Date Back type issued from mid-1908 to 1915, generally; and the Blue Seal, Value Back type, issued from mid-1915 to early 1922.

The third issue group includes the Series of 1902

national bank notes, which began with the Red Seal type, issued from early 1902 to late 1908; followed by the Blue Seal Date Back type, issued from mid-1908 to 1915, generally and finally; the Blue Seal, Plain Back type issued from mid-1915 until the end of the large size issuing era in 1929.

Notice that I have described these as "issue groups" and not "charter periods". As I will show in later chapters, I believe the latter term is completely inaccurate and inappropriate. Also, the title "Original Series", while not appearing on any notes, was likely given to these early notes by the Comptroller of the Currency, as this title appears in the ledgers recording the delivery of these notes to his office.

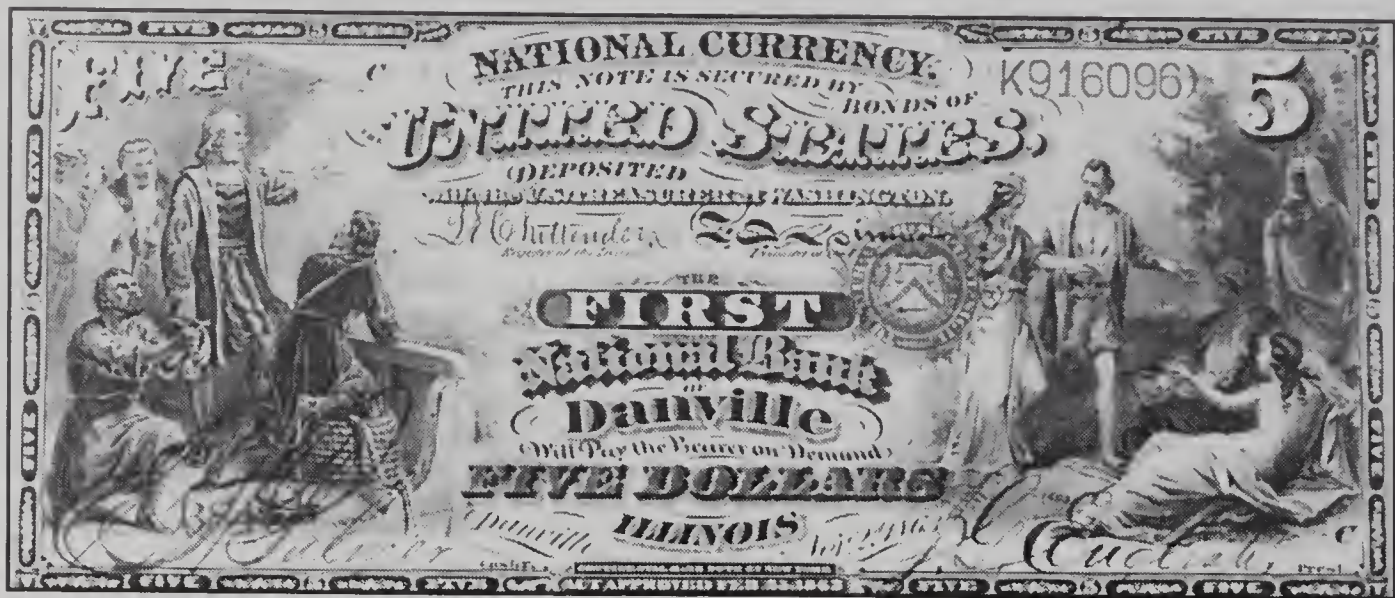
In general, the specific issue group or series and type of note that a particular national bank issued depended on the bank's organization date, charter date or twenty year extension date. Prior to June, 1921, no national bank could issue notes of the same issue group or series for more than twenty years.

In the Original Series and the Series of 1875, national bank notes were issued in the denominations of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1000. The \$500 and \$1000 notes are extremely rare, with only one Series 1875 \$500 note known in private hands; one Original Series \$500 in the Smithsonian and one in the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank. One \$1000 national bank note is rumored to be held somewhere in the Federal Reserve system. In the Series of 1882 and the Series of 1902, only the denominations from \$5 to \$100 were printed and issued.

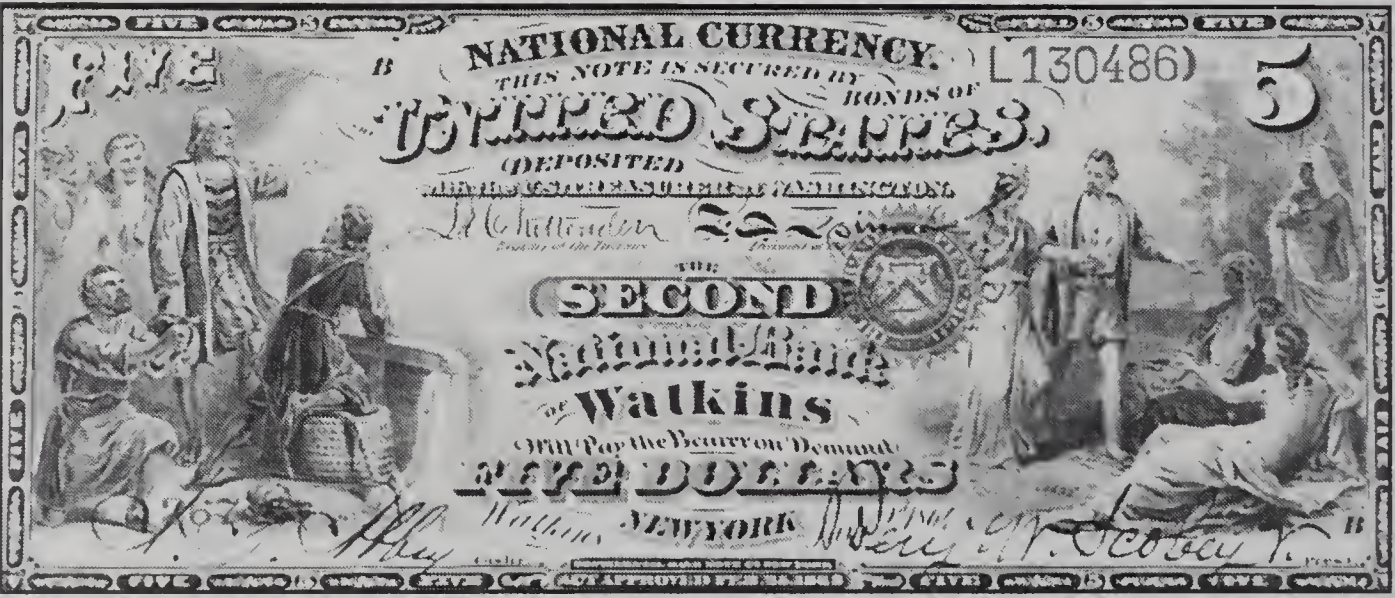
To be Continued in the next Rag Picker!

Following are notes illustrating the principles described by Doug in part I of this article.

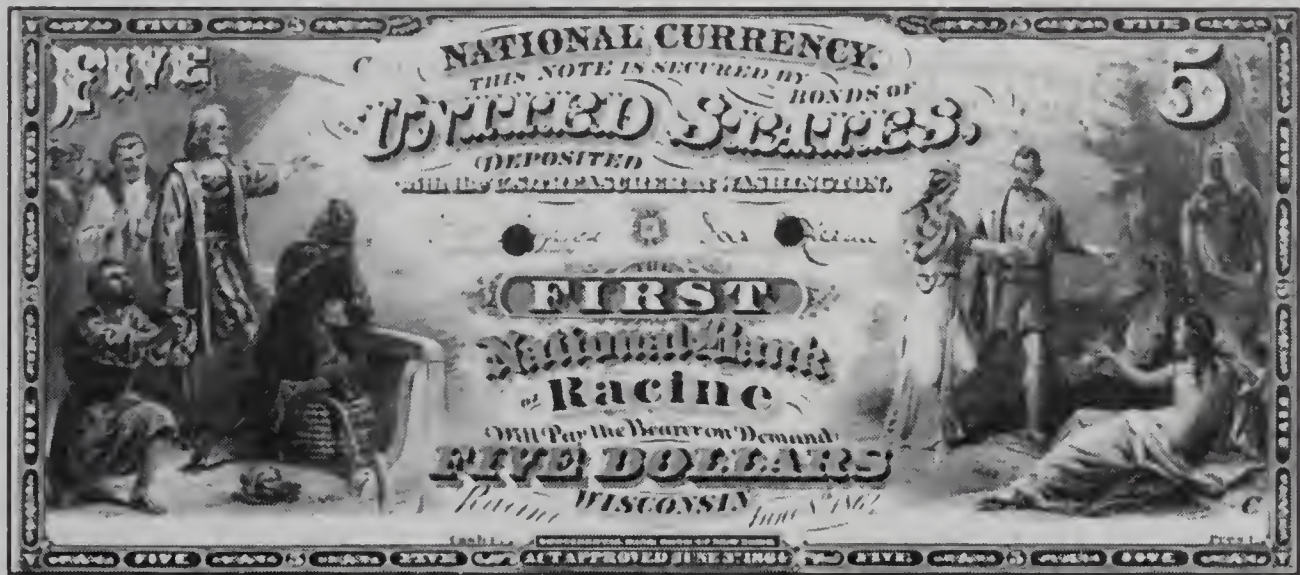
An Original Series note from "The First N.B. of Danville, IL." Charter 113. This shows November 3, 1863, the earliest plate date found on national bank notes.



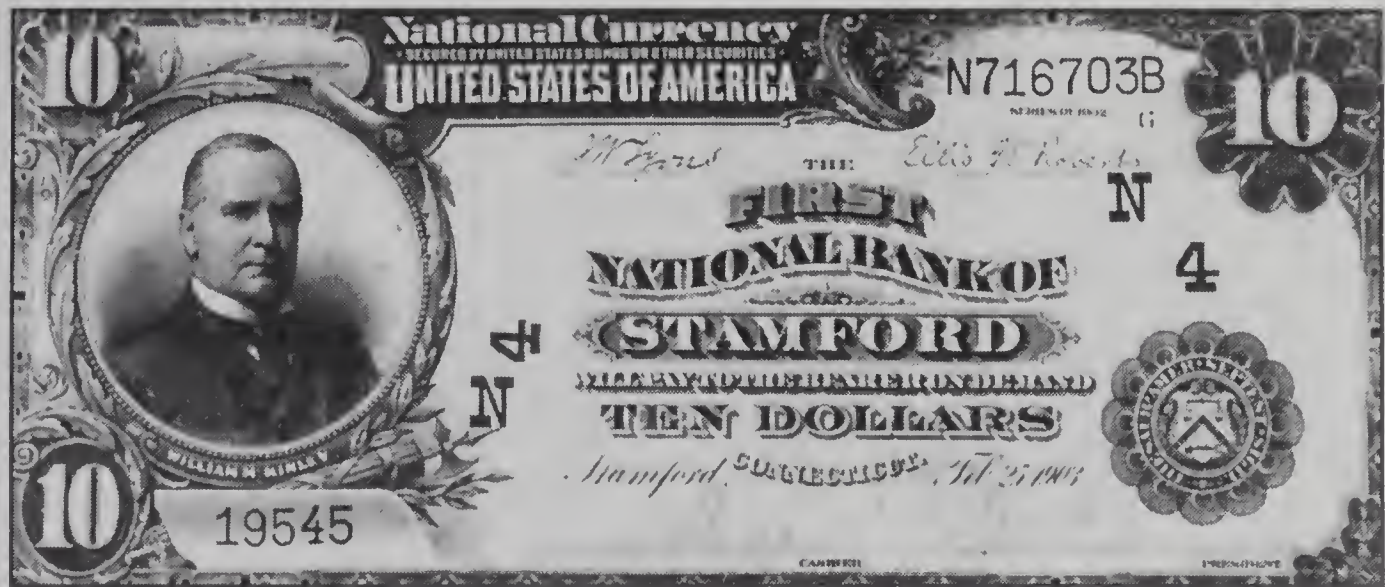
A \$5 Original Series note from "The Second N.B. of Watkins, NY", Charter 456 showing a June 2, 1864 plate date (the bank's charter date) and an Act of Feb. 25, 1863 Act date.



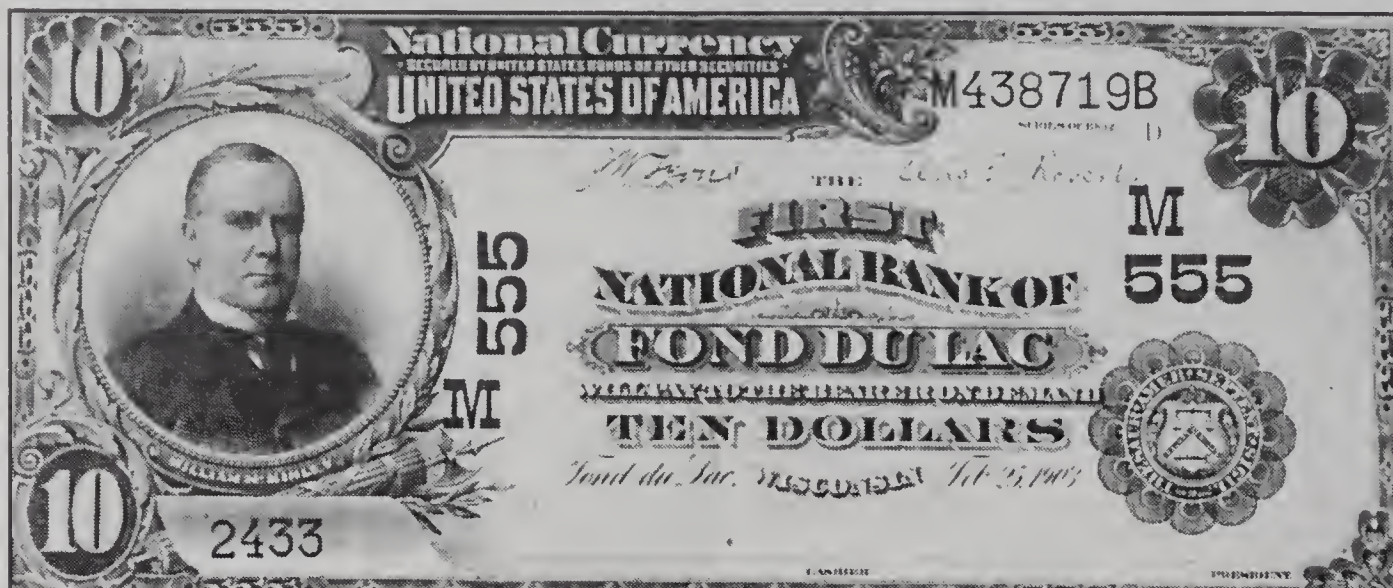
A \$5 Proof note from "The first N.B. of Racine, WI", Charter 456, with the Act of June 3, 1864 date and a plate date of June 8, 1864. Photo courtesy of the Smithsonian Numismatic Collection.



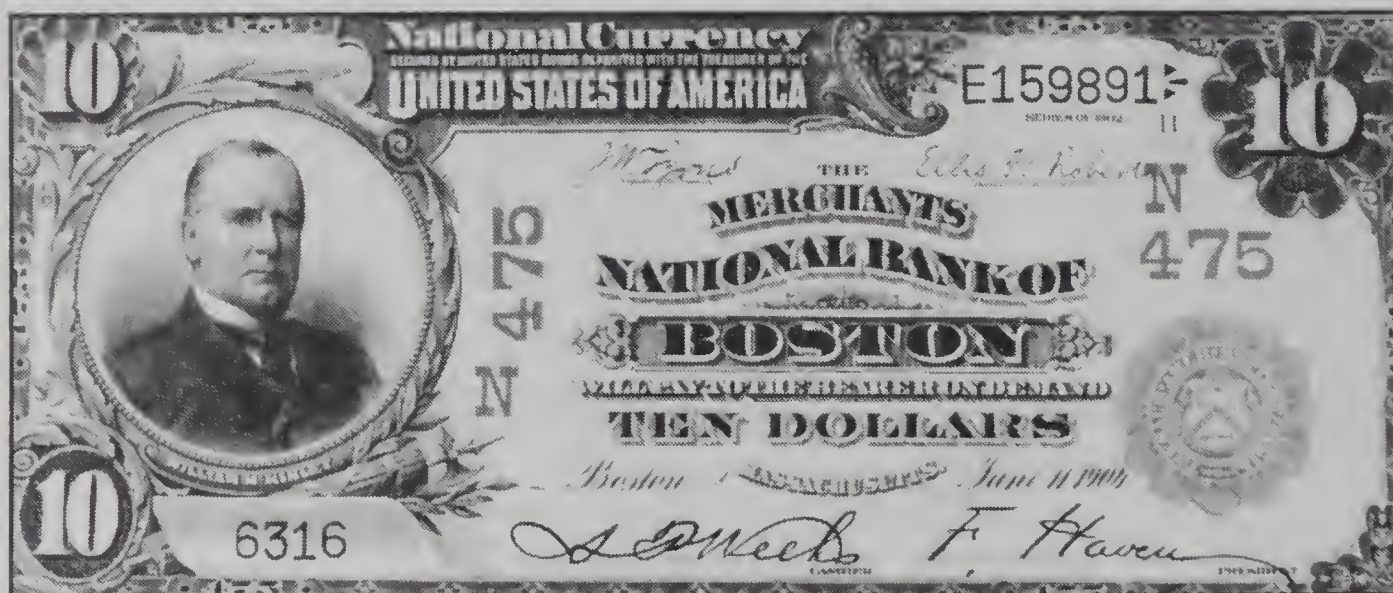
"The First N.B. of Stamford, CT" Charter 4, was the lowest numbered charter to select the maximum life under the Feb. 25, 1863 Act, and thus it's Series of 1902 issues show a plate date of Feb. 25, 1903, after the bank's second twenty year extension.



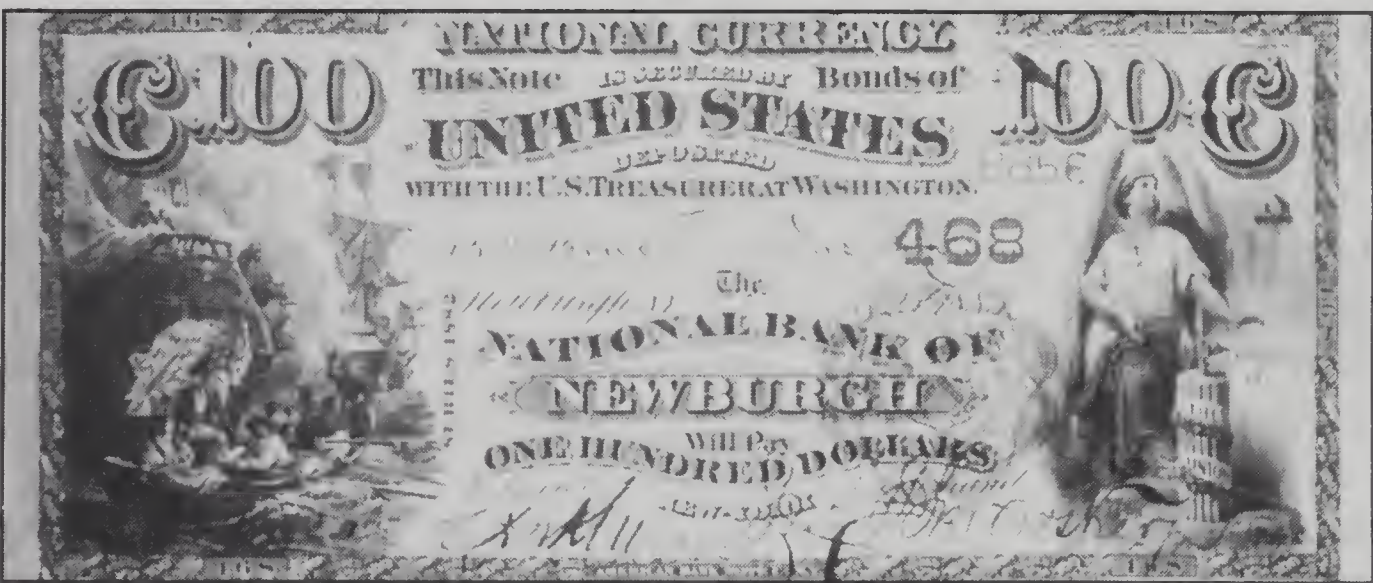
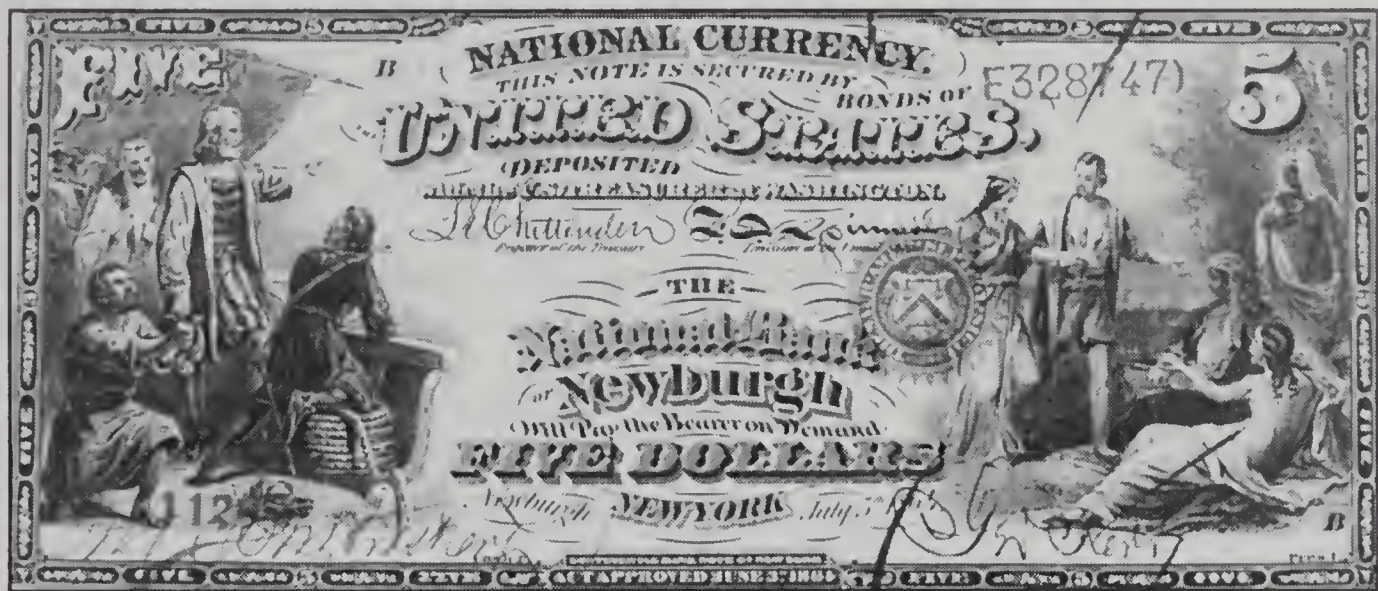
"The First N.B. of Fond Du Lac, WI" charter 555, was the highest numbered charter organized under the 1863 Act and the Series of 1902 note also shows a Feb. 25, 1903 plate date, indicating that this bank was organized under the earlier act.



A 1902 Red Seal from "The Merchants N.B. of Boston, MA" charter 475, the first bank organized under the 1864 Act, with a plate date of June 11, 1904, forty years and one day after the bank's organization.



"The N.B. of Newburgh, NY" charter 468, was organized under the Act of Feb. 25, 1863, but not chartered until after passage of the Act of June 3, 1864. The \$5 Original Series note shows the later Act date, while the \$100 Series of 1882 note shows a plate date of Feb. 25, 1883 (the bank's extension date), twenty years after the earlier 1863 Act date, showing that the bank had been organized under the Feb. 25, 1863 Act.



BEP REPORT
OCTOBER, 1994
W indicates Fort Worth

\$1	1993	E00	000	001A	E64	000	000A	64,000,000
		F51	200	001C	F96	000	000C	44,800,000
		F00	000	001D	F19	200	000D	19,200,000
	w	G00	000	001B	G64	000	000B	64,000,000
	w	I00	000	001A	I25	600	000A	25,600,000
	w	L38	400	001E	L96	000	000E	57,600,000
	w	L00	000	001F	L12	800	000F	12,800,000
\$5	88A	D76	800	001B	D96	000	000B	19,200,000
		D00	000	001C	D38	400	000C	38,400,000
	w	G06	400	001H	G83	200	000H	76,800,000
\$10	1993	B00	000	001A	B64	000	000A	64,000,000
		L00	000	001A	L64	000	000A	64,000,000
\$20	1993	B00	000	001A	B64	000	000A	64,000,000
		C00	000	001A	C12	800	000A	12,800,000
	w	H83	200	001A	H96	000	000A	12,800,000
	w	H00	000	001B	H25	600	000B	25,600,000
\$50	1993	E16	000	001A	E28	800	000A	12,800,000
		J00	000	001A	J03	200	000A	3,200,000
\$100	1990	L41	600	001B	L48	000	000B	6,400,000
\$100	1993	E00	000	001A	E19	200	000A	19,200,000
		F00	000	001A	F16	000	000A	16,000,000
		I00	000	001A	I03	200	000A	3,200,000
		L00	000	001A	L19	200	000A	19,200,000

STARS

\$5	88Aw	G00	000	001*	G03	200	000*	3,200,000
\$10	1990	B12	800	001*	B16	000	000*	3,200,000
\$20	1993	B00	000	001*	B03	000	000*	3,200,000

BEP REPORT
NOVEMBER, 1994

\$1	1993	E64	000	001A	E96	00	000A	32,000,000
		E00	000	001B	E51	200	000B	51,200,000
		F19	000	001D	F89	600	000D	70,400,000
	w	G64	000	001B	G96	000	000B	32,000,000
	w	G00	000	001C	G32	000	000C	32,000,000
	w	L12	800	001F	L83	200	000F	70,400,000
\$5	1993	B00	000	001A	B19	200	000A	19,200,000
\$10	1993	B64	000	001A	B96	000	000A	32,000,000
		B00	000	001B	B32	000	000B	32,000,000
		H00	000	001A	H38	400	000A	38,400,000
		L64	000	001A	L76	800	000A	12,800,000
\$20	1993	B64	000	001A	B96	000	000A	32,000,000
		B00	000	001B	B32	000	000B	32,000,000
		C12	800	000A	C51	200	000A	38,400,000
	w	G00	000	001A	G64	000	000A	64,000,000
	w	H25	600	001B	H89	600	000B	64,000,000
\$50	1993	B35	200	001A	B96	000	000A	60,800,000
\$100	1993	B00	000	001A	B64	000	000A	64,000,000

STARS

\$1	1993	F03	200	001*	F06	400	000*	3,200,000
\$10	1993	B16	000	001*	B19	200	000*	1,152,000
\$50	1993	B00	000	001*	B03	200	000*	1,152,000
\$100	1993	B00	000	001*	B03	200	000*	1,280,000

BEP REPORT
DECEMBER, 1994

\$1	1993	B51	200	001D	B96	000	000D	44,800,000
		B00	000	001E	B12	800	000E	12,800,000
		E51	200	001B	E89	600	000B	38,400,000
		F89	600	001D	F96	000	000D	6,400,000
		F00	000	001E	F44	800	000E	44,800,000
	w	G32	000	001C	G89	600	000C	57,600,000
	w	L83	200	001F	L96	000	000F	12,800,000
	w	L00	000	001G	L19	200	000G	19,200,000
\$5	1993	A00	000	001A	A19	200	000A	19,200,000
	w	H00	000	001A	H64	000	000H	64,000,000
\$10	1993	B32	000	001B	B57	600	000B	25,600,000
		F00	000	001A	F64	000	000A	64,000,000
		J00	000	001A	J19	200	000A	19,200,000
\$20	1993	B32	000	001B	B89	600	000B	57,600,000
	w	G64	000	001A	G96	000	000A	32,000,000
	w	G00	000	001B	G96	000	000B	96,000,000
\$100	1993	B64	000	001A	B99	200	000A	35,200,000
		B00	000	001B	B19	200	000B	19,200,000

STARS

\$5	1993	B00	000	001*	B03	200	000*	3,200,000
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BEP REPORT
JANUARY, 1995

\$1	1993	B12	800	001E	B76	800	000E	64,000,000
		E89	600	001B	E96	000	000E	6,400,000
		E00	000	001C	E57	600	000C	57,600,000
		F44	800	001E	F96	000	000E	51,200,000
		F00	000	001F	F44	800	000F	44,800,000
	w	G89	600	001C	G96	000	000C	6,400,000
	w	G00	000	001D	G51	200	000D	51,200,000
	w	L19	200	001G	L70	400	000G	51,200,000

\$5	1993	C00	000	001A	C38	400	000A	38,400,000
\$10	1993	F64	000	001A	F96	000	000A	32,000,000
		F00	000	001B	F25	600	000B	25,600,000
		G00	000	001A	G64	000	000A	64,000,000
\$20	1993	B89	600	001B	B96	000	000B	6,400,000
		B00	000	001C	B57	600	000C	57,600,000
w		G00	000	001C	G57	600	000C	57,600,000
w		L32	000	001C	L96	000	000C	64,000,000
w		L00	000	001D	L12	800	000D	12,800,000
\$100	1993	B19	200	001B	B83	200	000B	64,000,000

STARS

\$1	1993	F06	400	001*	F09	600	000*	3,200,000
	w88A	L19	200	001*	L22	400	000*	3,200,000

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

US Currency price lists incl. modern notes listed by blocks. Also errors. Full size SASE or FAX (517) 869-2994. Falater. Box 81, Allen, MI 49227-0081.

Automotive Stock Certificates. Buy and sell. Falater, Box 91, Allen, MI 49227-0091

Wanted: \$1 1988 F* 1 to 25, Buy or Trade. Wanted \$1 1969B CA-111 & 000 end, 1 each. Need 88A \$5 EF 1-5, Buy or Trade. Phil Pollard, PO Box 922, Tracy, CA 95378 PMCM #2294

MI Nationals Wanted: Bronson, sm. or lg., Coldwater Lg, I'm looking for notes from my hometown and my families hometown. (708)289-5928. Bryan Kibiloski, 435 Millwood Dr., Bartlett, IL 60103 PMCM# 3090.

Wanted: CU 1993 Series \$1 notes ending in 50. Pay 25 cents Ea. Please send list. Also need 1 each 88A \$1FRN h-h ending in 50. Russell J Stover, 158 Peach Valley Dr., San Antonio, TX 78227-4552.

For Sale (No Trades) Block Sets FRN's CU Series 63-85 essentially complete e.g. include 1963 BC & DB, etc. plus inventory and some label sets. Larry Sterling. PO Box 4098, River Edge, NJ 07661

Wanted: Collections, Accumulations, & High grade single copies of better foreign notes. High Grade Allied Military Currency also of interest. Send description of items & asking price. TNA Associates (K.S. Bauman) PO Box 250027, Franklin, MI 48025-0027

Need (2) of each 1988A \$1FRN CU Any # G-1P--G12800000P (FW), G12800001*-G16000000*(DC). E.J. Wehling, 39-17 Sycamore Dr., Fairlawn, NJ 07410.

Wanted Ohio Nationals. Bowling Green, Mendon, Kalida, Leipsic, Pittsburg, Loudonville, Butler, West Liberty, Bradford, Baltimore, Miller City, Elmore, Buckeye City. Any scarce Ohio. Lowell Yoder, POB 444, Holland, OH 43528 (419)865-5115

Need 88a) start (FW) GP, HE, HF, IH, JD, KG, LJ, LN, LU, also GW (Wash). Will trade/buy F* WEB. Ronald Dobbins, 824 Lindendale Court, Columbus, OH 43204, PMCM # 2211.

Wanted: Minnesota Obsoletes and National Banknotes titles. Will pay top prices for those I need. Call (507) 289-5099. Jerry Swanson, PO Box 565, Rochester, MN 55903, PMCM# 3031.

Bank Employees send for my free paper money "buying list N". Radars, Repeaters, and low numbers needed. Mike Abramson Currency, Box 16990, Duluth, MN 55816 (218) 525-3652.

Why not plan to attend the International Bank Note Society Meeting in London next October - It will be worth the trip. Nelson P. Aspen, 420 Owen Rd., West Chester, PA 19380-4321. PMCM # 1228

Wanted: Reference books on banking, especially on private banking and/or private bankers (like J.P. Morgan) Robert Hatfield, 8728 Huron, Taylor, MI 48180. PMCM # 2119

Would like to buy one each of the following FRN's: \$1 88A-BL WEB CU; \$1 88A F* WEB CU. H.L. Mitchell, 2202 Howard Dr., Pine Bluff, AR 71603.

Wanted: \$5 88A EF, FW, F*, G*, \$10 85 DD, 90 AB, GD, \$20 1990 A*, F*, I*. will buy or trade. Everything must be CU. Lawrence, PO Box 110262, Nashville, TN 37222-0262. PMCM # 1135.

WANTED: 1981 DA uncut Block of 4 FRN's; also 88A Web notes. Buying back issued \$1 blocks of 4. Paying \$7.50 each. Need \$1 1974 series singles, CD * EG ending in #38. Joe R. Ramos, 1929 Millis St., Montebello, CA 90640-4533. PMCM 2256.

KRAUSE's Wisconsin Obsolete's Book, Never used. \$34. Rulau's new 1700-1900 US tokens book, never used, \$41. (POB's add \$3 or \$4.50 for both) Will sell other paper money books. George Springer, 2427 Ninth St., SW, Canton, OH 49710.

Wanted: Prime number US bank notes. Send serial # and description, I will reply. Michael Vicari, PO Box 28023, Santa Ana, CA 92799. PMCM LM10.

\$25 EACH: \$1 1981 F11211111D, H22232222A, H47444444B, H67666666A, H66676666A, H77707777A, H77877777A, F73777777A, H79777777A, all CU. Much More in special FRN Catalogue, free with order or \$3. Graeme M. Ton, Jr. 203 47th St., Gulfport, MS, 39507. PMCM # 1593.

WANTED: Crisp Unc \$1 notes 1928 to 1993 with the serial number ending in 25. I will pay \$50 each for 88A IA Fort worth and Web press notes BL, F*, FL, GP. Only CU and SN ending in 25. Allen Camacho, PO Box 716, Glendora, CA 91740-0716.

Friedberg's for sale, send me a list of the edition's you need. Frank Clark, PO Box 117060, Carrollton, TX 75011. PMCM 2104

WANTED: 88A BL, F* Web, any condition. 1928 to 1934D FRN stars, any condition. I collect 13 & 88 ending \$1 FRN, looking for new traders. Jim Hodgson, PO Box 204865, Augusta, GA 30917.

Buying my old 1955 price lists, North American Currency books; Chase books on Confederate, Confederate counterfeit, notes. Southern sutlers. Florida notes. Also interested in purchasing rare southern states bonds and stock certificates. Col. Grover Criswell, 15001 NE 248th Ave. Rd., Salt Springs, FL 32134-6000.

COMPUTER INFORMATION, by John Stone

Paper money is now in cyberspace. If you have a computer and a modem you can connect with other paper money collectors through the USENET newsgroup rec.collecting.coins. Most of the postings relate to coins but they do get a fair number of paper postings. Many non-collectors ask questions about the value of old silver certificates, obsoletes, nationals, foreign notes, etc. It's a good way to inform people about paper money collecting. Right now not too many paper money collectors and dealers are involved. I think this is because they didn't know about it. I found out the group existed by accident one day, when I was just casually working with my computer at my place of employment. The internet computer system reaches approximately 25-30 million people around the world so there is a big opportunity to reach a lot of people who might be interested in paper money collecting. You can

also buy and sell ads, want lists, schedule of paper money shows, etc. I encourage you to check this out. If I can be of any help to anyone who wants more information on this just let me know. John Stone, 3007 Andrew Ave., Lansing, MI 48906. PMCM # 2284. E-Mail JSTONE9352@aol.com

FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES: WHAT ARE THEY?

by Robert D. Hatfield

Probably every day we reach for our wallet or purse and pull out some paper money to pay for something we want or need. It is so common an action that we seldom, if ever, really look at those pieces of paper we dispense. For most of us, the parade of \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 notes are seldom interrupted by a \$2, \$50 or \$100. We might take a harsh look at those \$50 and \$100 notes and silently pray they are not amongst the multitude of counterfeits now out there. No one seems to want the poor "deuce", as it just doesn't seem to fit in anywhere.

But what are these Federal Reserve Notes we so willingly put in and take out of our wallets and purses? Does that obligation printed on the front, "This Note Is Legal Tender For All Debts, Public and Private", mean much? What if anything, protects our paper money? What is the Federal Reserve, and is there a "reserve"?

The Federal Reserve system is still basically the same today as it was when signed by President Wilson on December 23, 1914. There are still 12 Federal Reserve Districts (Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas and San Francisco), and the central board, now called the Governing Board of the Federal Reserve, still meets in Washington, D.C. However, that basic core is about all that remains of the original act.

The Federal Reserve System is not owned by the federal government, nor are the notes printed the

direct obligation of any national body. The "System" is the entire entity of tens of thousands of privately-owned banks. As often noted, the "Federal" Reserve System is about as federal as is Federal Express. More than once, the actions of the Board has caused the President or his Secretary of the Treasury, or even Congress, much chagrin. However, no one has ever challenged the basic concept behind the Federal Reserve, and that is the control of money.

After the Gold Reserve Act of 1933 passed, little, if any true "reserves" were required for Federal Reserve Notes. Now that Congress has eliminated the required balance of United States (Legal Tender) Notes to be in circulation, no paper money now printed has any "reserves" except the good faith and credit of the banking industry as a whole. No mounds of silver and gold back our currently printed paper money. In fact, no governmental securities of any type are needed either. Your basic trust in the numerous large banks of this country is what backs your money today. As long as you, the clerk at Sears, the local newspaper carrier, the "System" will continue to function. We will leave it to the historians as to who gets the credit for the original plan (President Wilson, Colonel House, Paul Warburg, whomever), and the amendments to the Federal Reserve Act (like Carter Glass).

Bibliography:

Bradford, Frederick A. Money and Banking. N.Y.: Longmans, Green and Co., 1941.

Hessler, Gene. The Comprehensive Catalog of U.S. Paper Money. Fifth Edition. Port Clinton, OH: BNR Press, 1992.

Johnson, Joseph French. Money and Currency. Boston: Ginn and Co., 1921.

With that introduction...here's the FRN List

FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE EXCHANGE LIST

Chairman: Joseph Mikolaczyk

603 Parchmount Ave.

Parchment, MI 49004

This exchange list is open to all paid up PMCM members who would care to help fellow collectors, as well as themselves, exchange current FRN's. If you would like your name added, write to me at the above address. DON'T WRITE TO THE EDITOR as it adds to his work and delays your request. The following PMCM members will exchange current FRN's they have available with other members at face value, plus SASE.

District A Boston

C/O WBT

PO Box 209

Georgetown, CT 06829

E.F.Z. ((\$1)

17209 Falstaff Ln

Olney, MD 20832

District B New York

Robert Thiel

PO Box 163

Victor, NY 14564

Larry Sterling

PO Box 4098

River Edge, NJ 07661

Leon Silverman

237 Mamoroneck Av.

White Plains, NY 10605

Don Klein

Apt 3G, 136-05 Sanford Av

Flushing, NY 11355-3113

District C Philadelphia	Patrick A. Glover PO Box 8941 Trenton, NJ 08650-0941
District D Cleveland	Andrew Choma R#1, Wabash Ave. Morgan, PA 15064 Robert Jackson (\$1-&-5) 5825 Terrace Pk. Dr. Dayton, OH 45429 Joseph T. Sobeck 245 Roosevelt Ave. McKees Rocks, PA 15136
District E Richmond	Larry W Booth (\$1-2-5) PO Box 12521 Roanoke, VA 24026
District F Atlanta	Robert Azpiazu, Jr. (\$1-5) PO Box 1565 St. Augustine, FL 32085 Lawrence PO Box 110262 Nashville, TN 37222-0262 Anthony Vigliotta (\$1) 2406 Summerfield Winter Park, FL 32792
District G Chicago	John R. Betts 5205 E 140 S La Grange, IN 46761 Thomas M. Flynn East 12 St Dubuque, IA 52001

Jos. Mikolajczyk (\$1-2-5)
603 Parchmount
Parchment, MI 49004

Martin E. Vink
PO Box 106
So. Holland, IL 60473

District H. St. Louis

Michael A. Crabb
PO Box 17871
Memphis, TN 38117

District I Minneapolis

No one Presently

District J Kansas City

No one presently

District K Dallas

Russell J. Stover
158 Peach Valley Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78227

District L San Francisco

E. Harold Langdon
1350 Pueblo Av SP350
Napa, CA 94558

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W. Hollywood, CA 90046-
0308

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